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the problem of the country parish with more of first hand knowledge, or with more of the wisdom that is born of sympathy and reverence for all that is good in both the past and the present than the reader will find in Dr. Wilson's pages. I welcome and commend this book as a fine product of studies and labors at once scientific and practical." The two aspects mentioned are scientific surveys of conditions and practical efforts to improve them. The author treats subjects of fundamental importance: the various types of farms, economic and technical problems of rural occupations, co-operation, schools, morality, recreation, and common worship. This volume should appear in any select list of books on rural problems.

C. R. HENDERSON

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Modern Philanthropy, A Study of Efficient Appealing and Giving.

By WILLIAM H. ALLEN. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1912.

The author of this book follows up his *Efficient Democracy* with a study of 6,000 appeals to Mrs. E. H. Harriman, and a vigorous, nervous, irritating, caustic examination of the present condition of the public mind on the subject of philanthropy. One may quarrel with his style, may question the soundness of some of his generalizations, may raise question marks opposite some of his bold assertions, but no well-informed person can doubt the need of his criticism. He is profoundly right in regarding the work of government as the normal method of achieving the general ends of society, and in declaring that private philanthropy must always regard itself as supplementing the organizations of the collective will. He is entirely right in insisting with vigor and trenchant force that every city should have an impartial and capable budget committee, not merely to describe and criticize existing agencies, but to discover opportunities. Those who are trying to do useful social work will heartily sympathize with the contention that their lives should not be wasted in raising money; that business experience should be devoted to that task. The prospect of establishing a national clearing-house for the collection of information for givers and applicants is good enough to be hopeful. Business men, philanthropists, social workers, clergymen, associations of commerce, leaders of women's clubs, will find this book one of the most stimulating, thought-provoking discussions yet published. It is a small matter whether we agree with the author at every point; the first duty is to weigh his argument for more accurate account of stock and complete survey of social needs.

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